

EQUAL RIGHTS

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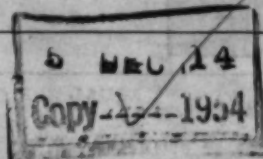
EIGHTEEN WOMEN ELECTED

TO CONGRESS—

Two in Senate

Sixteen in House

November, 1954



Rep. Katherine St. George (R), N.Y.



Senator Margaret Chase Smith (R), Maine



Rep. Bolton (R), Ohio



Rep. Buchanan (D), Pa.



Rep. Church (R), Ill.



Rep. Harden (R), Ind.



Rep. Kee (D), W.Va.



Rep. Kelly (D), N.Y.



Rep. Pfost (D), Idaho



Rep. Rogers (R), Mass.



Rep. Sullivan (D), Mo.



Rep. Thompson (R), Mich.

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EQUAL RIGHTS

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THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

The Amendment is popularly known as the Lucretia Mott Amendment in honor of one of the greatest pioneers in the movement for the emancipation of women.

TEXT

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"Congress and the several States shall have power, within their respective jurisdictions, to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

"This amendment shall take effect one year after the date of ratification."

INTRODUCTION

In Senate: First introduced in 1923 by Senator Charles Curtis (R) Kan., later Vice-President.

Introduced in every subsequent Senate.

Introduced in 83d Congress (1953) by Senator John Marshall Butler (R) Md., with 23 co-sponsors.

In House of Representatives: First introduced in 1923 by Representative Daniel Anthony (R), Kan.

Introduced in every subsequent House.

Introduced in 83d Congress (1953) by Representative Katharine St. George (R), N.Y., supported by 122 Representatives.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

In Senate: Reported favorably by Judiciary Committee in 1942 and in every subsequent Senate.

In House of Representatives: Reported favorably by Judiciary Committee in 1945 and 1948.

There has never been an adverse report in either House.

VOTES

In Senate: July 19, 1946, received majority vote but not the two-thirds required for a Constitutional Amendment.

January 25, 1950, received necessary two-thirds vote, but a rider, known as the Hayden Rider, was attached which defeated purpose of Amendment.

July 16, 1953, received necessary two-thirds vote but again Hayden Rider was attached, thereby again defeating purpose of the Amendment.

In House of Representatives: Amendment has never been voted on.

PLANKS IN PLATFORMS OF NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES

REPUBLICAN

1952—"We recommend to Congress the submission of a Constitutional Amendment providing equal rights for men and women.

"We favor legislation assuring equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex."

DEMOCRATIC

1952—"We recommend and endorse for submission to the Congress a Constitutional Amendment providing equal rights for women."

(Planks substantially like the above have been in the Republican Platforms since 1940, and in the Democratic Platforms since 1944.)

The Time of Harvest

by MAMIE SYDNEY MIZEN

WHEN the red, hunter's moon rises behind the tracery of bare boughs and the fields are no longer restless with the movement of growing things, but lie quiet as if exhausted with giving their largess, it has become almost instinctive for man to set aside a time to give thanks for the harvest. As the National Woman's Party takes stock of its blessings at this harvest, its members and friends have cause for rejoicing.

First and most obvious of blessings is the election of the largest number of women to the Congress of the United States in its history. This certainly indicates a growing appreciation of the political role of women.

Eighteen women were elected. One will serve only until the end of the present outgoing Congress. The other seventeen will move in on Washington after the first of the year, from literally every quarter of the nation—from Maine to Hawaii, from Georgia to Oregon. This is indeed a record of progress from that day, nearly forty years ago, when there was one lone woman, Jeannette Rankin, deemed worthy to represent a state in our national legislative halls.

Most of the seventeen women who will be in the next Senate and House come already pledged to work for the Equal Rights Amendment. We are thankful that they were elected. We are thankful that they are women who are loyal to women, and who want to use their great power to win complete freedom for women.

We are thankful, too, that so many of our good friends among the men members of Congress have come back. A number who had refused their support to the Amendment were not returned. Most of the new Congressmen are our friends.

As we look back over the history of the Amendment, we see other signs that the seed planted a quarter of a century has borne fruit. In those early days it was a problem to find a sponsor for such a radical measure as complete equality for women. During the last Congress the sponsors came to well over a hundred. For the new Congress, offers to serve as sponsors have already arrived in great numbers.

It was difficult in the past to get serious news coverage for such a movement. We have seen that coverage build through the years. We know that we now have the respect of the press.

Then the Equal Rights Amendment no longer faces the opposition of an arm of the Federal Government itself, against which no private group or idea can fight on equal terms. After long years of active and vocal battle against the Amendment, the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor no longer presents itself as an enemy. That, in itself, is a major victory for which the National Woman's Party and all its friends are thankful indeed.

And the Amendment no longer faces the opposition of the American Federation of Labor. At its National Convention last September, the AF of L voted to study the Amendment instead of continuing to oppose it. Another cause for rejoicing and gratitude.

As we survey our harvest, we note another sheaf. The Women's Joint Legislative Committee for Equal Rights has become active and powerful. New members have joined. The surge of life is evident in the part it took in the recent elections.

So we can well rejoice. But we cannot rest from our labors. There are those who do not yet support us, and they must be reached and won. There is the great, continuing task of education at the grassroots. Every woman is needed. The ideal situation would be every woman enrolled under the banner of the organization

WOMEN ELECTED TO CONGRESS, NOVEMBER, 1954 (Continued from page 1)

Elected For The First Time



Rep. Blitch (D), Ga.



Rep. Green (D), Oreg.



Senator Able (R), Nev.



Rep. Griffiths (D), Mich.



Rep. Knutson (D), Minn.

AS THE opening day of the 84th Congress approaches, we survey our situation and find it good. Opposition is waning, and in some instances has been officially withdrawn.

We begin the Congressional term with more women in office than ever before. The majority are experienced, seasoned legislators, long staunch supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment. The new members come to their high office with outstanding records of political and legislative experience in their home states. At last women have a sizable group of Congresswomen on the inside to fight the battle for the complete emancipation of women. What a contrast to the suffrage days when there was not even one woman in Congress to help!

We wish we might mention by name everyone who has helped in the past, and who pledges help now. But we shall mention a few who are symbols. Katherine St. George of N. Y. has been a valiant, resourceful and courageous leader. She will continue to be. Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts, steadfast friend for many years. We shall long remember her wise, unfaltering leadership of the equal Nationality campaign. Judge Ruth Thompson of Michigan, a dedicated equalitarian, had a strategic place on the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives in the last Congress, a position highly important to the progress of the Amendment through the legislative maze. It is hoped she will be on the Judiciary Committee again in the new Congress. And Mrs. Gracie Pfof of Idaho, who campaigned vigorously, with the Amendment as one of the important planks in her platform, and was successful in a real uphill battle for re-election. Many, many other.

The eighteen women elected to Congress this November are a completely bi-partisan group—9 Republicans

which so long has spearheaded this crusade—The National Woman's Party. We can all work to that end. But, meanwhile, we can urge everyone to work where she is, to be alert, to express her determination that finally, perhaps before another national election is upon us, the Equal Rights Amendment may become a part of the fundamental law of this country, and all women become really first class citizens.

and 9 Democrats. As pointed out in our page 2 editorial they come from all parts of the United States and the territory of Hawaii. Their non-political activities include, newspaper columnist, radio script writer, farmer, publisher, psychologist, county probate judge, real estate operator and lawyer. Seventeen of the 18 are married or widowed. The length of their time in Congress varies from the 30 years of Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts to zero time for the five freshmen elected for the first time. Four of these will be sworn in when the 84th Congress opens. The fifth, Senator Hazel H. Able, was elected to fill a vacancy and will go out with the 83rd Congress. The majority of the seventeen remaining are unquestionably FOR the Amendment without change of any kind.

Judge Martha W. Griffiths made the ideal statement on this subject in a letter to *Equal Rights* magazine in October. She wrote, "I am unequivocally and without reservation whatsoever FOR the Equal Rights Amendment." Another freshman, Coya Knutson of Minnesota said, "I give my full support to Equal Rights Amendment now before Congress."

Marguerite Church of Illinois writes, "I do appreciate your letter and your strong interest in the Equal Rights Amendment of which I am a co-sponsor with Mrs. St. George. You may be sure that I will give it my full support."

Cecil Harden of Indiana, made this stirring statement: "I am especially interested in peace and the well-being of children, and I feel that anything that gives more power to the mothers of the race is bound to be good for our Nation. My political Party spoke in 1940-1944-1948 in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment. In my work as National Committee-woman for Indiana I saw the sentiment that existed to remove all barriers to equal rights for the women of America."

In addition to those who were elected, very good races were run by four other women who made excellent showings but were defeated in spite of a great deal of support from both women and men. All four were in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment. They are: Ellen Harris (R), Colo.; Dorothy Martin (R), Del.; Berniece Pyke (D), O.; and Inez Scholl (D), Ind.

This was a first run for all four. *Equal Rights* says "Better luck next time" to all of them.



Lady Pethick-Lawrence, President of the World Woman's Party, addressing Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar of India, Chairman of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, London, January 1946, in support of the creation of a United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. This Commission was brought into being during the London Assembly of the United Nations, January-February 1946, very largely as a result of the efforts of Lady Pethick-Lawrence.

From Betty Gram Swing

The immortality of Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence rests on the lips and in the hearts of all women who survive her for she was one of the most greatly loved of all. To define this quality of loveliness is impossible but it is attributable, I believe, to the fact that like Saint Francis of Assisi who so greatly loved all things great and small, especially the forgotten and forlorn, she consecrated her life to the cause of the advancement of women and to peace. Her contribution to the campaign for the vote in England is incalculable. She not only went to prison many times but raised thousands of pounds for the movement and her speeches were of such an incandescent quality that women caught up in the thrall of her appeal were known to throw the jewels they were wearing at her feet.

It was my good fortune to be her neighbor in Surrey, England for many years. I came to know first hand the rare beauty of her nature, her quick sympathy, her selflessness, her humor, her force, her love of little children and above all her kindness. She was in the great tradition of the pioneers of women's emancipation.

In 1946, though enfeebled by illness, she gave of her wise counsel and helped immeasurably in the campaign for the creation of a Commission on the Status of Women at the First General Assembly in London. As President of the World Woman's Party and wife of the then Minister of State to India, she, more than anyone else was able to recruit the support of Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar and Sir Peter Frazer, of New Zealand, both members of Social and Economic Council who were needed to sponsor our cause. She lived to see this important commission come into being as the apex of a long feminist career.

There need be no monuments for Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence. She will be alive forever and remembered forever, and I for one will hear her forever and love her forever.

Tributes to A GREAT LEADER and

FROM Mary Gawthorpe,

Former member of Executive Committee of Women's Social and Political Union of Great Britain:

When I first stayed at the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence in Surrey I learned to call it a cottage, larger though it was than any cottage I had known. Sweetness and quietness are what I felt on my first visit to "The Mascot."

Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence took me to a casement room for the night, and placing candle and drink nearby, left me to myself, letting sink in the unalterable peace and quiet of the silent house within, matching the enveloping quietness of the garden without. I picked up a book and read:

"Blow me the time of the ripe red moon,
I shall sleep like a child by the wayside soon,
And the tune of the sun;
When our piping is done
Lo, others shall finish what we have begun,
For the spell we cast shall prevail at last
When fault is forgotten and failure past.
Prevail and restore to earth once more
The lost enchantment and wonder lore."

Those lines as remembered, may be imperfectly, light up memory's portrait of my hostess, late Summer 1906, on the eve of the Baptism of Fire, which launched the larger phases of militancy at the House of Commons in October. Perhaps the lines are vividly remembered because they suggest what Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence was like then, and remained, through the years of wonderful partnership with Frederick Pethick-Lawrence, a lover of beauty and a tower of strength.

FROM Mabel K. Tuke,

Honorary Secretary of the Women's Social and Political Union of Great Britain.

Memories grave and gay, poignant and full of sunshine, flood my mind as in my quiet room I give myself up to them, and I wonder how I can say in a few words what will convey a fraction of the affection and deep regard I had for Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence. Her passing robs the world of a most vital and impressive national figure.

During the weeks and months and years, when an epic struggle was being waged to win for British women the elementary right of the Parliamentary Franchise, we stood together in a close comradeship of work. It was a relationship involved with political issues that were linked to and enriched by a friendship of deep personal affection. Nothing can break or dim its lustre.

I owe to our Lord and Lady Pethick-Lawrence more than I can ever say for all they were to me throughout a long and often bitter struggle in which, with thousands of other women, we were engaged. Emmeline's far-flung, wide, human sympathies reached out to wherever injustice and tyranny were exercised by men with a view to the subjugation of their women—Lord Pethick-Lawrence, with an almost unsurpassed loyalty, was always by her side.

We, who have lost this dear and honored Lady to mortal sight treasure every remembrance we have of her great contribution to the enrichment of our individual lives, and also to the wider national and international causes which were to her the breath of Life. May her dear soul rest in peace.

Lady Pethick-Lawrence FIGHTER FOR THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN

From Alice Morgan Wright

My first sight of Mrs. Lawrence was getting off the train when she and Mrs. Pankhurst came to address a suffrage meeting which my fellow-students and I had arranged for them in Paris in 1910. It always surprised people to find those amazing women to be such handsome and charming creatures. Their gracious presence enthralled their audience no less than did the fire and logic of their speeches.

Throughout England a like impression was serving to win ardent support for the movement. Crowded meetings and splendid processions were held. One that I crossed the Channel to take part in started in the afternoon at Trafalgar Square but it was nine o'clock when the last of the marchers reached the Albert Hall. On and on they came carrying their banners of purple, white and green, nobly designed, till the auditorium was filled with the color and pageantry of the massed standards. The three speakers, each wearing one of the appointed colors of the militant organization came onto the bright stage and Mrs. Lawrence, all in white, opened the meeting.

After the long years when women had been patiently asking for their right of suffrage the high-hearted days of militancy had come. It was a time of quickened wits and hard work, of danger and lots of fun.

Then came prison and we saw each other in Holloway in the spring of 1912 and we saw the hyacinths in blossom in the prison yard beneath our barred windows.

Undaunted, though not knowing yet that victory was to come, Mrs. Lawrence seemed always to be holding high a banner, as she was to do also in the causes which later claimed her loyalty and leadership: efforts all for justice or freedom or peace.

And all the work and all the triumphs of both their distinguished careers were shared by the Pethick-Lawrences. Words in praise of either constitute a tribute to both.

When I saw Lord Pethick-Lawrence in London the other day he told me of the happy year they had had together before her death and of her bravery in her last illness. I knew that the bravery too had been shared, and he said "They wanted to have a memorial service for her, but, you know Emmeline wouldn't have liked that, so I just had a reception and three hundred came. Why weren't you here? We had a lovely time."

From Hazel Hunkins-Hallinan

Over the years it has been increasingly evident that the happiest and most significant factor in the life of Emmeline Pethick was her marriage to Frederick William Lawrence. It was not only that they were what the world always enjoys seeing—a happy married couple—but there existed between them a unanimity of aims and ideals which created one of the most perfect of partnerships, one which augmented the powers of each.

Both Emmeline Pethick and Frederick Lawrence were Non-Conformists; both were Radicals of the period newly awakened to the social evils of the industrial revolution. Each had independently accepted a dedication to alleviate the sufferings of the poor. Both had come to the conclusion that to raise the status of woman she must be enfranchised in order to help herself.

Emmeline Pethick had become one of the two Evangelical Sisters working in a social settlement in London's East End. Frederick Lawrence was the settlement's treasurer. They were married in October 1901 and they were the first English couple to join their names with a hyphen in accordance with feminist philosophy.

Forty-four years later the significance of that hyphen was again emphasized. In 1945, Frederick Pethick-Lawrence was given a peerage and became the first Baron of Peaslake. Quite naturally he said, "We have been given a peerage." Emmeline accepted the title of "Lady" as something bestowed on the Pethick-Lawrences quite unlike Beatrice Webb, her contemporary, who never acknowledged she was Lady Passfield when her husband became Lord Passfield.

Soon after their marriage the Pethick-Lawrences were in the midst of the campaign for woman suffrage. Frederick was a man of means and with remarkable fearlessness he became one of the principal speakers of the Woman's Social and Political Union. He stood bail for hundreds of their members who were arrested. When his wife was arrested, he pledged the organization ten pounds a day until her release. In his zeal he handed the press one of their best jokes. Under the newspaper picture of Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence's arrest appeared the verse:

Ten pounds a day,
To keep this face in Holloway
He said he'd pay.

Together they watched with impish glee the joke go round the world.

The eight years of militancy which followed now take their place in history and in the written word they lose much of their violence. Lived day by day they had the intensity of a crusade. The militants throwing down the challenge to the established order, met the Law head on. Life was endless discussion, political pressure, meetings day and night from one end of the country to the other and most of them ending in riots. The militants met ridicule and social ostracism and finally physical violence, imprisonment and the degrading horror of forcible feeding. While Emmeline suffered it in one gaol, Frederick suffered it in another. The only partnership of its kind in the world. Lady Pethick-Lawrence frequently said that her husband's unflinching unity with her was her most precious memory.

In 1951, feminist organizations arranged a banquet in honor of their golden wedding anniversary. She was then 84 years old. Several hundred people were there. The Pethick-Lawrences sat together at the center of the high table—a striking pair. The spare, straight, fragile figure of Lady Pethick-Lawrence with a trace of Sister Emmeline still clinging to her and the little old man—in his youth a renowned tennis player—but now bent and warped with arthritis, a halo of wispy white hair above his bold forehead and sharp eyes which still flashed fire. Each of them spoke mostly of the other and their little jests were largely about their partnership. It was a moving occasion.

This year feminists again arranged a meeting—a memorial to the great leader now gone. Her husband insisted that it should be a meeting to maintain the spirit of "progressive feminism and hope." That it did. On the platform were the leading women in Britain's public life and in short, happy speeches each one gave testimony to the fact that whatever she had accomplished or would be able to accomplish was due mainly to the doors which had been pushed open long ago by Emmeline Pethick-Lawrence and the dauntless militants.



Elizabeth P. Farrington
Newly elected Republican
Delegate from Hawaii

Heart Of The News

By Esther Van Waggoner Tufty

An election broadcast over the NBC Network, October 27, 1954.

Subject: Troubles before and after Woman Suffrage.

THE women of America had a 50-year-long headache getting the right to vote by constitutional amendment . . . (The proposal was first introduced in the Congress back when another Republican general . . . Ulysses S. Grant was President).

Today, after 34 years of enjoying the same political activities as men, the women continue to have political headaches. . . .

No longer are women thrown in jail for their political activities as the pioneer suffragettes were before the vote was granted. But neither are they thrown into elective office . . . without a lot of breaks.

It's still almost impossible for a woman to be a governor . . . (a FEW have made it). Or even Lt. Governor . . . altho a lady from Vermont . . . Republican Mrs. Consuelo Bailey . . . may win the No. 2 spot on the state ticket come Tuesday.

And the mere mention of a woman for President brings only smiles of derision. Someone is sure to say "Where in the world would we seat her husband at a White House State dinner?"

But all this is no laughing matter to those women dedicated to carrying on where suffragists Susan B.

Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott left off. . . .

I talked to the women best known as the worthy successor to those three pioneers, whose group-statue is seen by sightseers down in the crypt of the Capitol.

Alice Paul . . . honorary chairman and the aggressive spirit of the National Woman's Party . . . says the biggest trouble American women have since securing the vote is embodied in another amendment to give women equal rights.

This is no surprise because Alice Paul has long been associated with this crusade . . . but it may be a surprise to some that she lined up 21 national women's organizations (representing some 6 million women) to join together in sending out a letter to every congressional candidate demanding a flat "yes" or "no" answer to the question "Are you in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment?" The impression was left if the answer were "No" or missing . . . the women would punish the candidate at the polls. 115 Democratic candidates and 131 Republican, 4 Liberals, 8 Prohibitionists, 1 American Labor answered favorably. That makes 259 . . . "yes" votes with no compromises. No flat "no" replies came in. Many wanted more time or a change in the wording of the Amendment.

But even if women finally got Congress to approve the idea of an Equal Rights Amendment . . . (sometimes called Women's Bill of Rights) . . . that would not put an end to all their troubles to find equality in the world of politics.

Women have won the battle of almost-equal representation within the Republican and Democrat Party organizations. But few manage to get into those smoke-filled rooms where the big decisions are made at convention time.

Another trouble is that women don't recognize their own strength . . . ALL any politician needs is voters and money. Women have 4 million more potential votes than men. And women are said to control 75 percent of the wealth of the country. (Republicans woke up and put 4 women on their National Finance Committee and the Democrats put on two. . . .)

Thru the centuries men and women have complemented each other . . . for the betterment of the social world . . . why not work equally together for the betterment of government. . . .?

That's what the women are seeking—and making some progress. . . .

Celler has opposed granting women their rights in the U. S. Constitution.

HAND bills carrying this statement were one of many kinds of ammunition used by women of Brooklyn's 11th District in their effort to replace Representative Emanuel Celler by a Representative who would be more friendly to equality for women. Representative Celler has steadfastly blocked the Equal Rights Amendment ever since his appointment to the all-powerful Judiciary Committee years ago. He has sponsored in Congress the dangerous Biological Status Bill that would establish a "declared policy of the United States that in law and its administration no distinctions on the basis of sex shall be made except such as are reasonably justified by differences in physical structure, biological, or social function."

Congress after Congress women have labored to win the vote of Representative Celler. Delegations of women have gone to him asking for consideration of the

right of women to equal opportunity to earn a living, to equal protection under the law. And year after year they have been turned down. Many of these groups were working women who faced the hazards of unemployment and unequal pay—simply because they were women. They want this situation changed. That was the purpose of their work against Mr. Celler's return to Congress.

And how these women worked—mainly Brooklyn women, and women from Celler's own Congressional District. They organized political rallies in all seven Assembly Districts. They carried on an intensive campaign through the churches, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mothers' Clubs, PTA groups, and other channels. Block by block, and house to house they went, regardless of their usual political affiliations, talking to housewives, distributing hand-

bills and pamphlets, and explaining over and over that equality for women was being blocked in Washington by Representative Celler.

From Mrs. Norma Lindsay, State Chairman of the Woman's Party for New York, herself a resident of Brooklyn, came a letter just before election day in which she wrote: "If we don't crack the Celler District it won't be for lack of trying. I haven't reached home for dinner for many a night until around midnight. I should know Brooklyn by this time as I've used every subway and surface car in District 11 and travelled all over Celler's territory. Other women, of both political parties, are doing the same."

Mr. Celler won in spite of all. HOWEVER, the work of these Brooklyn women made a dent—and not such a small one. He won, yes. But his majority was 8,212 votes LESS than his majority in 1952. He ran as a Democrat and there was a Democratic sweep in New York State this year. It was expected that his majority would be increased because of this Democratic sweep but, on the contrary, his majority was reduced. The day will come, and very soon, say these Brooklyn women, when the dent in their District will be big enough to hold any opponent of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Endorsement by Women Ministers

By MABEL E. GRISWOLD

Member of National Council
of National Woman's Party

IN THE SHADOW of the 2nd Assembly of the mighty World Council of Churches, and unheralded by the press, a group of earnest, dedicated women met in the Conference House of the Chicago Theological Seminary and unanimously endorsed the Equal Rights Amendment, August 14, 1954.

The American Association of Women Ministers in its 35th Annual Assembly recognized that the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment, supported by leading women's organizations including the National Association of Women Lawyers and the National Medical Women's Association, might well be the instrument that would give them "New Power for Larger Tasks" the theme of their 35th Assembly.

Perhaps they had in mind the words of John C. Bennett at the Amsterdam Assembly of the World Council in which he referred to a "false male imperialism" and stated that "the church is worse in this regard than is the community at large."

However, no bitterness was in evidence at this meeting because of the centuries old prejudice against women entering the ministry; no ill feeling was apparent at the small charges that for the most part are their lot; no complaints of their (it is assumed) small salaries. Only a desire for the opportunity to reach more and more people with the message of the Gospel.

What is more persistent than tradition? What more difficult to change than the mores of a people? But after experiencing the simplicity of these women, their earnestness, their heartfelt eloquence, their inner confidence, one feels assured that in time women will take their place beside men in the ministerial calling. It is interesting to note that often husband and wife serve in different local churches in the same area.

The greatest problem of women ministers is that of becoming accepted. The Rev. Mrs. Elsie Chamberlain, Speaker for the British Broadcasting Co., in elaborating this thought told the group that the public must become accustomed to seeing women in the pulpit. She pointed her remarks by telling about the little boy whose mother had asked a man to fill her pulpit while

she was absent. "Don't be silly!" the child said, "Men can't be ministers!"

In addition to the Rev. Mrs. Elsie Chamberlain, the program included talks by Mrs. Ruby Manikam of India, Representative of the United Council of Church Women in Southeast Asia; the Rev. Mlle. Madeline Barot, Secretary of the Commission on the Life and Work of Women in the Church, World Council; the Rev. Mrs. Victoria Booth Clibborn Demarest, granddaughter of the founder of the Salvation Army, and Dr. Christine Bourbeck, President of the Women Ministers of Germany.

The program which was participated in by a number of members including the Rev. Mrs. Ruth Bast; the Rev. Miss Olive Knapp; the Rev. Mrs. Clara Wood, President of the Association; the Rev. Mrs. Florence Jardine, editor of "The Woman's Pulpit"; the Rev. Mrs. Floretta Vanderbilt; the Rev. Mrs. Hilda Ives, D.D.; the Rev. Mrs. Noel Collins, and the Rev. Mrs. Ellen Shaw, was arranged by the Rev. Miss Rhoda Jane Dickinson.

The crowded program was stretched to permit the presentation of an argument for the Equal Rights Amendment which included quotations favoring it from the letters of Dr. E. Stanley Jones, and the Rev. Dr. G. Bromley Oxnam.

In the period allowed for discussion, Miss Nettie M. Senger, Missionary in China for 24 years, told the group: "It (equality) is God-given. Somehow we have lost it and we must do what we can to regain it."

The resolution endorsing the Equal Rights Amendment was then unanimously adopted.

The Women Ministers not only endorsed the Amendment, they also opposed any compromise. Their resolution on this point stated: "We affirm our opposition to any qualification of the above Amendment that would defeat its purpose; especially we oppose the Hayden rider, the Hunt-Harrison substitute Amendment, and the Celler Bill." The text of the entire resolution was given in the October issue of *Equal Rights*.

According to the Bureau of the Census there are 6,777 women ministers in the United States, and the percentage of women among the total clergy has almost doubled. The membership of the American Association of Women Ministers is 300. About 50 members manage each year to overcome the difficulties of distance, financial deficiencies and the emergencies of daily life and attend the Assemblies.

Endorsement by Women Lawyers

THE CONVENTION of the National Association of Women Lawyers, meeting in Chicago, voted on August 15, 1954 to reaffirm their support of the Equal Rights Amendment. This was the first organization of women in the country to join the National Woman's party in supporting the Amendment. The Association took this action in 1935 at the national convention presided over by Burnita Shelton Matthews, now Judge of the U. S. District Court.

The text of the most recent resolution of endorsement, that of last August, was printed in full in the October issue of *Equal Rights*.

This endorsement followed a report on the Amendment from the Committee on the Legal Status of Women, presented by the Chairman, Miss Agatha La Londe. It read in part:

This action following a report by the Committee on the Legal Status of Women presented by Miss Agatha O. La Londe, Chairman of that Committee, which reads in part as follows:

"A review of the records of NAWL reveals that our Association has sponsored an 'equal rights' amendment to the U. S. Constitution at least since our annual convention of 1935, reading substantially as follows:

Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. (S. J. Res. 49 and H. J. Res. 74—as introduced in 83d Congress.)

"The members of this Committee as well as members of NAWL throughout the country have taken steps in their respective States, to have equal rights amendment legislation enacted as introduced. However, our Organization, as well as most other organizations interested in its passage, was too late in starting our efforts as to the 83d Congress. By the time we and others got started the damage had already been done as to the 83d Congress. The first session of that Congress, on July 16, 1953, in the Senate, tacked on the Hayden rider to S. J. Res. 49, providing that the provisions as set forth in S. J. Res. 49, as introduced, 'shall not be construed to impair any rights, benefits, or exemptions now or hereafter conferred by law upon persons of the female sex,' and then passed it, i.e., the Bill S. J. Res. 49 with the Hayden rider by a vote of 78 yeas, 11 nays, and 12 not voting. The Congressional Record for July 16, 1953, should be read by everyone either for, or against the equal rights legislation. It is very revealing. A copy no doubt can be found in a number of libraries in each state as well as in all offices of members of Congress. Reading that Congressional issue will show who, and what, is against equal rights, and how those opposed are ever alert and get their opposition registered in plenty of time, to be effective."

Following the Convention the President announced the appointment of Miss Charlotte Murphy and Miss Ida B. Als as its representatives on the Women's Joint Legislative Committee for Equal Rights to carry out the plans voted at the Chicago Convention.

Endorsement By Women Accountants

Still they come . . . the tide for equal rights is running high. From the President of the American Women's Society of Certified Public Accountants comes a letter announcing that the women certified public accountants have again endorsed the Amendment and have come out, this time, against compromise, of any kind. The letter reads in part:

"Miss Anne Carter
Editor Equal Rights

"Dear Miss Carter:

* * *

"The American Women's Society of Certified Public Accountants' resolution was in the form of a motion as follows: 'Moved that the AWSCPA re-endorse the Equal Rights Amendment without any Amendments thereto.'

"This motion was made, seconded and carried at the business meeting of AWSCPA held Friday, October 15, 1954 at the Hotel Astor, New York City.

* * *

"Sincerely yours,
/s/ "Elinor Hill, President."

One more forward step toward the goal of complete equality for American women.

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